

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /059 W
-----271054Z 077762 /15

O R 271021Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3867
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 04201

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
SUBJECT: US INITIATIVES AT THE NATO SUMMIT

REF: (A) LONDON 7721 (DTG 101828Z MAY 77) (NOTAL),
(B) STATE 107365 (DTG 122352Z MAY 77)

SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE RECOMMENDS A DEMARCHE AT HIGH
LEVEL IN NATO CAPITALS TO HELP GET NATO WORK ON THE LONDON
SUMMIT INITIATIVES OFF TO A GOOD START. WE SUGGEST THAT
THE US UNDERLINE IN CAPITALS THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO
THE INITIATIVES AND OUR HOPE THAT CAPITALS WILL PARTICIPATE
FULLY, GIVING STRONG SUPPORT TO THEIR NATO DELEGATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

1. THE ALLIANCE IS NOW AT THE OUTSET OF ITS WORK ON THE
TWO INITIATIVES PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE NATO SUM-
MIT: A SPECIAL ALLIANCE REVIEW OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS;
AND DPC DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO
STRENGTHEN THE ALLIANCE'S DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE IN THE
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1980'S (REF A). REGARDING THE ALLIANCE REVIEW OF EAST-
WEST RELATIONS, THERE IS ALREADY GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE
US VIEW THAT THE SPC WILL HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DRAFTING
THE REPORT, AND THAT THE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WILL GET
UNDER WAY UPON RECEIPT OF THE INITIAL US CONTRIBUTION. ON
THE DEFENSE INITIATIVES (REF B), THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORI-
TIES, THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND THE INTERNATIONAL MILI-

TARY STAFF ARE ALREADY AT WORK IN CONSULTATION WITH US.

2. THE ALLIES ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE THE US ATTACHES TO THESE INITIATIVES LAUNCHED PERSONALLY BY THE PRESIDENT AND THAT THE RESULTS WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE SUMMIT A YEAR HENCE IN WASHINGTON. FURTHERMORE, THE ALLIES GENERALLY SHARE OUR VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE INITIATIVES: MOST RECOGNIZE THE PROMISE INHERENT IN THE SPECIAL REVIEW ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING THE ATLANTIC CONSULTATIVE PROCESS AND THE TIMELINESS AND NEED FOR FRESH DEFENSE INITIATIVES IN THE INTEREST OF ENHANCING ALLIANCE SECURITY. MOREOVER, THERE IS GENERAL AWARENESS THAT THE US WILL MAKE JUDGMENTS ABOUT THE ALLIANCE AND ITS RELATIONS WITH THE ALLIES BASED UPON THE EXTENT OF SUCCESS OF THE ALLIANCE IN SHOULDERING THEIR TASKS.

3. WE HAVE BEEN UNDERLINING IN MANY CONTACTS HERE THE NEED TO MOVE AHEAD DECISIVELY AND QUICKLY WITH THE INITIATIVES. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT ALSO WOULD BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSIES IN NATO CAPITALS TO UNDERLINE NOW TO HOST GOVERNMENTS, AT APPROPRIATELY HIGH LEVELS IN FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTRIES, THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE US REGARDS THESE INITIATIVES, AND OUR HOPE THAT CAPITALS WILL PROVIDE STRONG PARTICIPATION, AND SUPPORT THE WORK OF THEIR NATO DELEGATIONS IN A SPECIAL WAY.

4. WE SUGGEST, MOREOVER, THAT APPROACHES IN CAPITALS BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS (EMBASSIES PARIS, ATHENS AND REYKJAVIK WOULD NOT MAKE REFERENCES TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DEFENSE INITIATIVE):

--THE US APPRECIATED THE BROAD SUPPORT AT THE RECENT NATO SUMMIT AND MINISTERIALS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS FOR A SPECIAL ALLIANCE REVIEW OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND FOR DPC DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN ALLIANCE DETERRENCE AND DEFENSE IN THE 1980'S.

--THE SPECIAL REVIEW ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS REFLECTS THE PRESIDENT'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ALLIES. THE SUCCESS OF THE DEFENSE INITIATIVE IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TOWARD IMPROVEMENT OF NATO DEFENSE IN THE EXPECTATION THAT OUR NATO ALLIES WILL DO THE SAME.

--THE FULL COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION OF CAPITALS, AND STRONG SUPPORT FOR THEIR NATO DELEGATIONS, WILL BE NECESSARY IF THESE ENDEAVORS ARE TO FULFILL THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT.

--THEREFORE, WE URGE OUR ALLIES TO ASSIGN HIGHEST PRIORITY
TO THE TASKS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE UNDERTAKINGS AGREED
AT THE SUMMIT, SO THAT THEY MAY BE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED.

--WE BELIEVE THAT THE RESULTS OF THE EFFORTS OVER THE YEAR
AHEAD WILL BE THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE
SUMMIT GATHERING TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON IN 1978.
AT THAT TIME, HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE IN
A POSITION TO TAKE DECISIONS ESPECIALLY ON DEFENSE
INITIATIVES CENTRAL TO THE DEFENSE PLANS OF ALL ALLIES

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 04201

FOR THE YEARS AHEAD.

--A FAILURE OF THE ALLIANCE TO BE IN A POSITION IN 1978
TO OUTLINE CONFIDENTLY ITS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE WOULD BE
A SETBACK TO BE AVOIDED AT ALL COSTS.

--ON THE OTHER HAND, SUCCESS IN THESE EFFORTS CAN HELP
ATTRACT BROAD PUBLIC SUPPORT IN OUR COUNTRIES FOR THE
TASKS THAT LIE AHEAD.

--ON JUNE 2 OR 3, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES WILL DISCUSS
SYG LUNS' PRIVATE OFFICE MEMORANDUM (P.O.) CONTAINING
HIS SUGGESTED APPROACH FOR DEVELOPING THE LONG-TERM
DEFENSE PROGRAM. THE P.O. CANNOT COVER ALL DETAILS;

THESE WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT LATER. NEVERTHELESS,
WE THINK LUNS' APPROACH AND HIS LIST OF PRIORITY
PROGRAMS ARE ABOUT RIGHT. THERE IS NOT MUCH
TIME FOR CAPITALS TO STUDY THE P.O., BUT IT IS ESSENTIAL
THAT PERMREPS DISCUSS LUNS' SUGGESTIONS BEFORE THEY
LEAVE FOR THE OTTAWA NPG, SO THAT WORK CAN PROCEED
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SPEEDILY. THEREFORE, WE HOPE THAT YOUR PERMREPS WILL
BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE P.O.

5. WE EXPECT LUNS TO CIRCULATE HIS P.O. LATER TODAY,
AND WILL IMMEDIATELY TRANSMIT THE TEXT TO ALL ADDRESSEES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO04201
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977057/aaaaafmb.tel
Line Count: 188
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 6a7f3096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 7721 (DTG 101828Z MAY 77), 77 STATE 107365 (DTG 122352Z MAY 77)
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2563983
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US INITIATIVES AT THE NATO SUMMIT
TAGS: NATO
To: SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6a7f3096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009